electrification of villages in Bulandshahar and Badayun districts of Uttar Pradesh is under :

S. No.	Name of District	No. of Villages	Status of Electrification upto 3/96
1.	Bulandshahar	1359	1344
2.	Badayun	1780	1423

[English]

I.S.R.O. Project

3831. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to expand the activities of the Mahendragiri I.S.R.O. Project of Tamil Nadu by upgrading it to an independent status to enable speedy expansion and activity on consideration of its strategic location; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b). The Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre Mahendragiri Facilities (LMF) are a part of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and presently come under the Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre (LPSC) with headquarters at Valiamala, Thiruvananthapuram. The existing facilities at LMF are being augmented appropriately, where necessary to meet the current and future testing requirements in the context of development of advanced liquid propulsion systems.

The question of giving independent status to LMF does not arise, since it is a major ISRO facility mainly catering for the ground testing of liquid engine stages and subsystems developed for the Indian Space Programme. It thus forms part of the facilities set up for supporting a well integrated Programme.

Prosecution of Senior Officials

3832. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the precise rule requiring Government permission for prosecution of officers above a certain grade;

(b) whether Government have since reviewed the above rule;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the number of cases in which Government have withheld or refused the permission for prosecution of senior officials during the past three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) There is no rule or law under which permission of Government is required for prosecuting officers above a certain grade. The provisions of Section 19 of the Prevention of Corruption Acts, 1988 and Section 197 of Cr. P.C. requiring sanction of the Central/State Government and other competent authorities for prosecution of a public servant are uniformly applicable in respect of officers irrespective of their rank.

(b) and (c). No, Sir. These legal provisions have stood the test of time and judicial scrutiny and therefore there is no need for their review.

(d) According to the information furnished by the CBI, during the past three years, i.e. 1994, 1995 and 1996, the competent authorities did not consider it appropriate to accord permission for prosecution in 12 (Twelve) cases.

Employment Schemes

3833. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the amount provided by the Union Government to Uttar Pradesh for the various urban employment schemes during the year 1995-96, has been utilised; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b). Two Centrally sponsored urban employment schemes namely, Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY) and Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMI UPEP) are being implemented in Uttar Pradesh. So far as Nehru Rozgar Yojana is concerned for the year 1995-96, under the Scheme of Urban Micro Enterprises, Central funds amounting to Rs. 410.93 lakhs were released to Uttar Pradesh and Rs. 273.95 lakhs were contributed by the State Government as its share. Against the total 684.88 lakhs, the State reported 100% expenditure. Under the Scheme of Urban Wage Employment, Central funds of Rs. 451.70 lakhs and State share of Rs. 301.13 lakhs were available with the State for 1995-96. Against the total funds of Rs. 752.83 lakhs, the State reported, 100% expenditure during that year. Regarding Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMI UPEP), the scheme has been launched in Nov., 1995. The Central Government component amounting to Rs. 1516.63 lakhs was released to Uttar Pradesh during January, 1996.